

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3554
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
LEGISLATION ON BIO DIVERSITY
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to enact legislation to strengthen the involvement of the local self-Governments over the biological resources in their areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any committee for drafting biodiversity legislation has been constituted and has submitted its recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is formulating a legislation on biodiversity with the broad objectives of conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources. The proposed legislation envisages setting up of Biodiversity Management Committees by local self-governments.

(c), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government had set up an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan in August 1998 for recommending a suitable draft of the biodiversity legislation. The Committee submitted its report in October 1998. The Government has taken into consideration the recommendations of this Committee while preparing the biodiversity legislation.